

WATERLOO | ENVIRONMENT

Master of Applied Environmental Studies (MAES) in Local Economic Development

Apply Now for September, 2011

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

Cuts in central government funding have forced local communities to take charge of their future through local/community economic development. UW's Master's in Local Economic Development gives you the skills, knowledge, and contacts to help communities respond to global economic and environmental change.

BROAD-BASED PROGRAM

You'll graduate with an understanding of the evolution of local economic development as well as emerging trends such as globalization and the new economy. You also learn about business development, strategic economic planning, entrepreneurship, partnerships and networking, service sector expansion, information technologies, marketing, finance, labour market processes, tourism, impact assessment, environmental sustainability, and evaluation techniques. The objective is to prepare students for a career in economic development with public, private, or community-based organizations.

ADMISSIONS

Applicants require an honours degree or equivalent in business, commerce, economics, environmental studies, geography, or planning. Applicants with honours degrees in other fields, plus two years of development-related experience, are welcome.

Contact: Lori McConnell – lmcconne@uwaterloo.ca; or visit <http://environment.uwaterloo.ca/led/>

ONE YEAR DEGREE

Our Local Economic Development program is the only Master's degree of its kind in Canada. You can complete the program either in 12 months as a full-time student or in two years on a part-time basis. With only 15-20 students accepted each year, our personal learning environment attracts students from across Canada. You'll interact with researchers and professionals weekly in small seminars and field trips where theory and practice are combined.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

The LED program includes a four-month internship for students with less than two years of related experience. Previous internship employers include Team Canada trade missions, municipal or regional development organizations, private consultancies, environmental NGOs, and Community Futures programs.

OUR GRADUATES ARE IN DEMAND

Over 90% of each class is employed within six months of graduation. Most graduates work in local/regional development, private planning and development consulting, community-based development organizations, high-tech firms and utilities, research and teaching, and international development organizations. The result is a network of alumni working from Newfoundland to British Columbia, and from local government to the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives.



School of
Environment,
Enterprise and
Development